

# **CLARK COUNTY CLEAN WATER COMMISSION**

Wednesday, January 3, 2001  
6:00 – 9:00 PM

Clark County Public Works Department  
Conference Room  
4700 NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, Washington

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## **Call to Order**

### *Roll Call:*

#### Commission Members Present

Willie Bourlet, Cal Ek, Dana Kemper, Susan Rasmussen,  
Don Steinke, and Art Stubbs,

#### Commission Members Excused

Mary Martin, and Peter Tuck

#### Commission Members Absent

Robert Agard

#### Clark County Public Works Staff

Kelli Frost, Sam Giese, and Earl Rowell

#### Washington State University Cooperative Extension

Gary Bock

### *Introduction:*

The members of the Clean Water Commission, Clark County staff, and the public were introduced. Chair, Commissioner Kemper, then called the meeting to order.

### *Agenda and material review:*

Mr. Rowell reviewed the packet of materials for the meeting.

- 1) Agenda;
- 2) Notes from the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting;
- 3) E-mail from Department of Ecology regarding proposed changes to protect water quality;
- 4) E-mail from Earl Rowell regarding answering Mr. Steinke's questions;
- 5) Clark County Clean Water Commission Year 2000 Annual Report – *Rough Draft*;
- 6) A copy of the letter sent to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the reappointment of three Clean Water Commissioners and;
- 7) Reference material, Clark County the, What, Who, When, Where, Why and How.

*Updates and Communications from the public/media/agencies;*

Water quality protection advertisements have been printed in the Columbian, Battleground Reflector, and Camas Post-Record. They have also been made into slides, which are showing at local theatres through mid-January.

*12/20/00 meeting notes;*

The notes for Clean Water Commission meeting held on Wednesday, December 12, 2000 were approved as written.

*Grant workshop in Tacoma:*

Those Commissioners available to attend the grant workshop in Tacoma on Tuesday, January 16 are:

- (1) Mr. Agard
- (2) Mr. Bourlet
- (3) Mrs. Martin
- (4) Mr. Stubbs
- (5) Mrs. Rasmussen

Commissioners, not listed above, please contact Earl Rowell if you would like to attend this workshop.

The van will be leaving for Tacoma from Clark County Public Works Operations at **6:00 a.m.**

*Vaughn Brown, possible facilitator to attend 1/17/01 CWC meeting;*

Mr. Brown, from Gene Lawson Associates, who facilitated the Clean Water Funding Task force, will be available to attend the January 17, 2001 Clean Water Commission meeting to discuss possible future facilitation with this Commission.

Mr. Rowell: If this Commission chooses to hire a facilitator for the Clean Water Meetings, there is an internal process that staff must complete. Primarily it would require the Public Works Directors approval as well as the Board of County Commissioner's approval, due to the fact that it requires spending funds not previously identified. This process could take up to two or more weeks, which could delay bringing a facilitator on board until late-February.

Mr. Ek: I am against hiring a facilitator, many reasons for having a facilitator do not exist with this group. For example, we are not an antagonistic group, we do not have irate clients, and we have staff who is doing an excellent job facilitating these meetings. I think we should discuss this issue further, before bringing in a facilitator to talk with this Commission.

Mr. Kemper: It was my understanding that a facilitator would be hired to help this Commission work through the incentive issue.

Mr. Bourlet: A good facilitator can expedite a process for you to accomplish the task at hand. As an example, some assignments through the Clean Water Ordinance that haven't been accomplished and I think a facilitator could help us. Good facilitators are well worth the money.

Mr. Steinke: I think part of the problem is that we are all too polite, nobody wants to take the bull by the horns and say here's the path we ought to take.

Mrs. Rasmussen: How much will it cost to hire a facilitator and where will the money come from out of the budget?

Mr. Rowell: It would come out of the Clean Water Program administration budget, and would could cost around \$20,000.

Mr. Ek: Mr. Rowell can you give us your off the record opinion on whether this Commission needs a facilitator?

Mr. Rowell: If you are looking at a specific topics and a finite time frame, then utilizing a facilitator could keep this Commission focused and able to move forward.

Mr. Stubbs: I would be reluctant to spend money hiring a facilitator. I think we should try to work out these issues among ourselves first.

Mr. Kemper: I think it would be helpful to have Vaughn Brown attend the Clean Water Commission meeting on January 17, 2001.

*County Staff: Earl Rowell out of the office from 1/19/01 – 2/02/01*

Mr. Rowell: I will be on vacation from 1/19/01 – 2/02/01.

Mr. Steinke: Have you had a chance to forward to the Board of County Commissioners our action item from last meeting about transferring the billing of erosion control inspectors to the Department of Community Development?

Mr. Rowell: I have not. This issue should come from this Commission in the form of a letter, or perhaps a work session with the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Kemper: When will we have our year end budget?

Mr. Rowell: I'm hoping by mid-January or early February.

### **Group Discussion**

*Watershed Stewards Update;*

Gary Bock, the Watershed Stewards Coordinator, was introduced to the Commissioners. He provided the Commissioners with a tentative schedule for the Watershed Stewards classes offered in the spring 2001 and talked about what he hopes to accomplish with the Watershed Steward Program.  
(See attached handout)

*Rough Draft Annual Report:*

Mr. Kemper asked the Clean Water Commissioners to review the Rough Draft Annual Report for discussion at the next Clean Water Commission meeting, Wednesday January 17, 2001.

### **Action Items**

*Incentives;*

The Commissioners developed a list of twelve ideas for discussion and development at future meetings.  
(See also attached worksheet)

- 1) Ten percent reduction of capital investment if Water Quality Facility is on property site.
- 2) Any household with an "active" Watershed Steward exempt from base fee.
- 3) Revisit equity of fee structure:
  - a) Multifamily unit versus measured square feet.
  - b) Commercial/Industrial unit based on real impact, relative to contribution.
- 4) Establish units of measurement for water quality, water quantity, etc.
- 5) Public service contribution in return for an exemption or reduction of clean water fee.
- 6) In Salmon Creek recharge through infiltration, and storage for water use.
- 7) Allow fee to increase when BMP's are not used.

- 8) Encourage installation of BMP's on existing site.
- 9) Five to ten-dollar reduction in base fee for a written clean water plan.
- 10) Ten to twenty percent fee reduction for a written clean water plan.
- 11) Plant trees on south side of creek beds, and removal of blackberry bushes.
- 12) Protection and restore buffers in return for reduction of fees.

### **Adjourn**

#### ***Adjourn:***

Commissioner Kemper adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

### **Future Meetings**

#### ***Action Items:***

January 17 - Revising the ordinance.

January 17 – Annual report to Board of County Commissioners.

#### ***Next Meeting:***

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 17, 2000 at Clark County Public Works Operations Department Conference Room, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., 4700 NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver, Washington.

*Respectfully submitted by Kelli Frost*

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